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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).	Application Number	09/963,570
	Filing Date	September 27, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Toshiya KAI
	Group Art Unit	1616
	Examiner Name	S. S. Gollamudi
	Attorney Docket No.	NPR-085

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission Required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on February 21, 2003
(any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103 (c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 111833

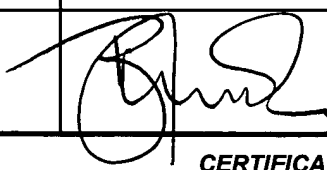
i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$750.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	Ronald J. Kubovcik	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	25,401
Signature		Date	March 21, 2003
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with the sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:			
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